



EDITORS' NOTES

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EDITORS' NOTES

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Architecture is both an art and a science, both a professional discipline and an academic subject at universities and institutes of technology. This engenders the field with a range of different publishing traditions, types of argument and verification, writing styles and nomenclatures. However, peer reviewed articles and essays have the same scientific standard and quality in this academic context. They just represent different research traditions of knowledge. Architecture as research subject is very broad and spans the range between, for instance, artistic, humanistic, historical, technological research and physical planning. Essays are typically used for presenting and discussing research in the humanities; architectural history, aesthetics and design. These sub-subjects can be found at universities. Articles are the norm for communicating research in social science and technology, which typically can be articles about building design, urban planning and landscape architecture. These contributions are usually part of a technological tradition. This division of architecture into art and science is extra confusing in the Nordic Countries. Behind the schools of architecture, there are two very different principles in Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland. In Denmark and Norway, the schools of architecture belong to the university and their humanistic tradition. In Sweden and Finland, the schools of architecture have been established at institutions of technology. In both cases, the schools of architecture are trying to bridge the gap between artistic sensibility and demands for scientific methodology in education and research. In order to handle manuscripts – essays and articles – on equal terms, based on their research tradition, we use two different templates for peer reviewing. This is to align the review questions with the type of text submitted, while maintaining the same expectation of quality towards the peer review process across all submissions. You can find these templates on our homepage as:

- Article review form
- Essay review form

This mixed issue of the journal is made up of four scientific articles, one debate paper, one book review and one review of a dissertation. Two articles discuss aspects that are more general. The first article by Raine Mäntysalo, Kaj Nyman and Johanna Lilius explores everyday use of architectural objects with the purpose to support citizens' wellbeing. They discuss how architecture makes it possible for users to experience joint occupancy of the built environment surrounding them. Thriving is introduced as a central concept in the search for quality of everyday living conditioned by architecture. In the second article, Isabel Marcos and Ana Ferreira discuss territorial branding. The authors explore Jean Nouvel's design for territorial branding in his project "Louisiana Manifesto" and its rhetorical strategy. The authors use Nouvel's description of his project to show how he tried to "play simultaneously" with the analytical (praxis) and strategic (theoretical) roles.

Two articles have a more specific approach and deal with office design and school architecture. Christina Bodin Danielsson starts her article by stating that the office market is constantly planning for the future and trying to determine factors that will steer the office of tomorrow as workplace. The article sets out to investigate the current discourses, trends and their importance for architectural design. The success of creating offices able to meet the future demands is summarized in six shaping factors. The following article by Charlotta Thodelius discusses how architectural design can be used as a tool for school safety and school security. For this reason, she addresses preventive strategies related to school design as architecture.

Forum

In this issue we reintroduce *Forum* as a separate section in the journal. In this section you will find three contributions: First a debate paper by Cecilia Pettersson, Inga Malmqvist, Sten Gromark and Helle Wijk. They present a protocol to explore enablers and barriers in the physical environment in the delivery of home healthcare services. Secondly, we have a review by Leif Houk. He looks into *The competition grid – Experimenting with & within architecture competitions* edited by Maria Theodorou and Antigoni Katsakou. Thirdly, Magnus Rönn reviews Linda Litanies' dissertation on competitions in Latvia. For the sake of clarity, we wish to remind our readers that these three contributions in *Forum* are not regarded as scientific articles. However, they are part of activities of great importance for architectural research as well as the journal. The overall goal for the reintroduction of *Forum* is to publish different kinds of contributions in the journal, which have a value for the research community and contribute to discussions about architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture.

Looking back, we can see that *Forum* was introduced in issue 2–1991 as a separate section and at first, it seems to have ended five years later. However, this is only the first phase of *Forum*. The second phase is from issue 1–1997 to 2007. Typical for the period is that debate papers and essays are presented in a separate section in the journal. This is the case even if *Forum* seldom appears as a common headline. The third phase in the journal starts in issue 1–2008 and continues to 2011. In these issues, *Forum* is used for contributions that discuss different aspects of architectural research. To summarize, we see a special section in the journal with different phases.

Why did *Forum* disappear and reappear in the journal? There is no clear explanation for the alteration in editorial comments. We cannot find any clarifying declaration when *Forum* was introduced in issue 2–1991 and then returned as a policy in the journal in issue 1–2008. The intention is only described very briefly in 1996, in editorial comments. The idea was to collect different kinds of contributions under a common headline, typically debate papers, news and reports concerning architectural research, such as presentations from congresses and seminars. According to the editors, reviews and notifications of new books and publications could also be presented in *Forum*.

We see several good reasons for having *Forum* as a special section in the journal for contributions such as debate papers, project reports and dissertation reviews. The objective with this policy is to publish papers that will add new knowledge to architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture as a unifying academic subject and a common field of research. We want to deepen discussions on architectural research. The editors-in-chief will review contributions published in *Forum*, and they are not a part of the double-blind peer review system. We believe that gathering the different kinds of contributions that are under editorial rather than peer review, under one single headline instead of a range of specific sections, helps maintain clarity for our readers. The plan is to use *Forum* for contributions that are regarded as valuable to the research community as well as practicing architects and planners. We hope this will make the journal even more attractive to its target group.

